

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 USSS-00 FBIE-00 SP-03 AID-20

EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-03 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 OIC-04 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 /178 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4983

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EFIN, IMF, IBRD

SUBJECT: ANNUAL IBRD/IMF MEETINGS

REF: BOGOTA 8129

1. FINANCE MINISTER RODRIGO BOTERO ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT HE WILL NOT BE ATTENDING THE ANNUAL FUND/BANK MEETINGS THIS YEAR. AT THE SAME TIME HE ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL COLOMBIAN DELEGATION: (A) ABDON ESPINOSA VALDERRAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE DELEGATION AND ACTING GOVERNOR TO BOTH THE FUND AND BANK. ESPINOSA WAS FORMERLY THE FINANCE MINISTER DURING THE CARLOS LLERAS ADMINISTRATION 1966-1970. SPEAKS ENGLISH AND FRENCH. (B) VERGILIO BARCO VARGAS PRESENTLY COLOMBIA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT THE IBRD. (C) GERMAN BOTERO DE LOS RIOS, ALTERNATE GOVERNOR OF THE FUND AND BANK. PRESENTLY MANAGER OF THE CENTRAL BANK. SPEAKS ENGLISH AND VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. (D) JORGE MEJIA PALACIO, TEMPORARY ALTERNATE GOVERNOR TO BOTH FUND AND BANK. PRESENTLY DIRECTOR OF THE BANKING ASSOCIATION. (E)

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LEONEL TORRES, DELEGATION ADVISOR. FORMERLY ADVISOR TO

THE MONETARY JUNTA ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS.
RECENTLY APPOINTED AS NEW DIRECTOR OF PROEXPO-THE
EXPORT PROMOTION FUND. SPEAKS ENGLISH.ATTENDED
SEVERAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS OF C-20. (F) HERNAN
MEJIA, ADVISOR OF THE DELEGATION. FORMERLY WORKED FOR
THE IMF AND PRESENTLY WORKING IN THE CENTRAL BANK. (G)
RODRIGO ESCOBAR, ADVISOR TO THE DELEGATION, PRESENTLY
MINISTER IN THE COLOMBIAN EMBASSY IN WASHDC.

2. AT LEAST SOME OF THE DELEGATES WILL BE ATTENDING A
MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES IN MEXICO PRIOR TO
THE ANNUAL MEETINGS.

3. BEGIN COMMENT. WHILE NO OFFICIAL EXPLANATION WAS
GIVEN FOR THE FINANCE MINISTER'S DECISION NOT TO ATTEND
THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETINGS, WE BELIEVE THE DECISION IS
RELATED TO NEED TO REMAIN IN COLOMBIA TO DIRECT LOPEZ
ADMINISTRATIONS'S EMERGENCY ECONOMIC PROGRAM. BELIEVE
GOC DELEGATION LIKELY TO RESERVE ITS POSITION ON FUND
BANK ISSUES UNTIL AFTER THE LA COUNTRIES MEET IN MEXICO.
END COMMENT.

VAKY

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